

POMOLOGICAL.

Fifth Quarterly Meeting of the County Society at

THE MOTHER OF COLONIES.

A Large Meeting and Interesting Services at Anaheim—Address and Discussions.

The fifth quarterly meeting of the Los Angeles County Pomological Society convened on Thursday afternoon at Kroeger's Hall, in Anaheim. The President, H. Hamilton, is the chair.

The hall was beautifully decorated with flowers and evergreens by the ladies of Anaheim and at one corner of the platform was a rare and most beautiful work in gold, the hands of the Misses Frances, Clemence and Rose Schmidt. It consisted of banks of flowers in the center of which was a small basket containing a bunch of violets, making a floral gem that created the greatest admiration. There was also displayed a fine lot of grapes, apricots, figs and peaches.

At the close of the meeting the speakers, Mr. Richard McElroy, editor of the Anaheim *Gazette*, delivered the following

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

Mr. President and Members of the Pomological Society:

It is a pleasant task that has been assigned to me—that of bidding you welcome to our town and giving you the freedom of our corporation. Almost a superfluous task, too, for I do not doubt that the citizens within our borders are always welcome—that the latching is on the outside of every door, and that Anaheim's whole-souled hospitality is proved.

But consider how far the discussion of our vine-growing has come in the possession of pleasure seekers. At your visit should be made, I will briefly say that Andheim gives you hearty greeting, individually.

It is unfortunate that we have been unable to transform this hall into a Fair in which the production of our Valley could be displayed. The practical agriculturist, however, knows that the exhibit of fruits is impossible at this time of year. I have a very serious notion of asking our neighbors to come into our vine yards, and I have the hope that the members of the board and I have locked into the members of the Pomological Society pledge themselves to hold another meeting here at a more auspicious time—when Custer and Ponsonby will have yielded their precious gifts. We have a rich and productive country round about, and though for some in-credible reason we have not developed the last of the great value of the potential growth of some other cities yet I have good reason to believe that the turn in the long lane has about been reached and that the mist of semi-bitterness about our vine-growing dissipates. We confidently look to you gentlemen to assist us in our ambition to share in the general prosperity. You can do it by inspection, by advertising, by knowledge concerning it, and when you hear it, tell us right. We are a gentle people, who are interested in the advancement of every acre of our imperial country and are not imbued with a prejudice against any race.

The Pomological society is a noble institution which has spread among the people much information of benefit, not only to the pioneer in fruit culture, but to the agriculturist in general. And I do not doubt that the proceedings of this meeting will show to our people the value of the society, and as a result its most valuable members hereafter will be found to have an audience.

I again bid you welcome, and trust that when you leave for your homes it will be with a determination to come again soon. And I do not doubt that the proceedings of this meeting will show to our people the value of the society, and as a result its most valuable members hereafter will be found to have an audience.

For your direction, then, delivered a short address setting forth the importance of the society and the great work before us, which the President, Fred L. Atkinson, then, the minute of the previous meeting, and received the names of thirteen new members. The society was shown to be in a flourishing condition.

A long and able essay on "Raisin Grapes," by Robert McPherson, of Orange, was by H. S. Knapp, of the *Gas* and was followed by a discussion, both of which there is no room to-day's issue.

Of the essays that followed on "Wine Grapes," by the well known grape grower and breeder, Mr. L. L. Dreyfus, the first wine in Anaheim, the first wine, the first in the country, I have, and hope it may serve them to avoid serious and costly mistakes, which all beginners are apt to make, because they don't know any better.

Before I proceed I must tell you that my faith in viticulture is very great. I believe that in course of time we will surpass all the world in this art, and will outstrip in value not only that of all other fruits and cereals raised in our fruitful and glorious State, but you may add that we will surpass all the world in value. Many serious mistakes are to be made, and I hope they will be greater than from all these other sources. To show you that I do not exaggerate, you will see in the Catalogue that there is much or more land for grape-vine planting than France has, and France produces 2000 millions of gallons of wine, and we will produce 2000 millions of dollars. To produce such an amount of wine would require perhaps six million acres of land. It would give employment to an incredible number of people—farmers, vine-growers, mechanics, teamsters, coolers, and so on to the merchants.

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